

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1575

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, ETRD, EAGR, EEC, GR, IT

SUBJECT: GREEK APPLICATION FOR EC MEMBERSHIP

REF: EC BRUSSELS 5276

1. ACCORDING MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) REP PENNAROLA (DIRECTOR, EC ECONOMIC EXTERNAL RELATIONS), GOI IN PRINCIPLE WELCOMES GREEK APPLICATION FOR EC MEMBERSHIP AND WILL SUPPORT IT.

2. PENNAROLA INDICATED FACT THAT GREECE IS ALSO MEDITERRANEAN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCER IS, ON BALANCE, POSITIVE

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RATHER THAN NEGATIVE FACTOR AS FAR AS GOI CONCERNED. EC-

GREECE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT ALREADY GIVES GREEK AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS (INCLUDING WINE, OLIVES , OLIVE OIL AND FRESH/RPOCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES) NEARLY FREE ACCESS TO EC. CONSEQUENTLY, FULL MEMBERSHIP POSES NOT RPT NO SIGNIFICATNT PROBLEM FOR ITALY IN TERMS OF INCREASED COMPETITION IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. ON OTHER HAND, ANOTHER EC MEMBER INTERESTED IN PROTECTION FOR MEDITERRANEAN PRODUCTS -- ITALY NOW ISOLATED AGAINST OTHER EIGHT -- WOULD INCREASE CHANCES OF EC AGRICULTURAL POLICY ORIENTED TOWARDS INTERESTS OF ITALIAN FARMERS.

3. PENNAROLA SAID GREEK DELEGATION HAD VISITED ITALIAN MINISTRY AGRICULTURE ON JUNE 12 FOR EXTENDED AND PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS, AS RESULT OF WHICH GOI COULD FULLY SUPPORT GREEK MEMBERSHIP IN EC.

4. PENNAROLA RECOGNIZED THAT GREEK APPLICATION IS AWKWARD FOR EC, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE OF TURKISH ANGLE, BUT HE CONTENTED THAT TURKS RECOGNIZE, AND WOULD PROBABLY ACCEPT (ALBEIT RELUCTANTLY) FACT THAT GREEK AND TURKISH ECONOMIES ARE IN DIFFERENT STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT, WHICH IMPLIES THAT GREECE COULD BECOME EC MEMBER WELL BEFORE TURKEY. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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